

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:84

ANSWERED ON:15.11.2007

TASK FORCE ON CIVIC NEEDS OF MINORITY COMMUNITY

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Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to motivate and help 338 minority towns in the country;
- (b) if so, whether they are part of the list of 338 minority concentration towns drawn up by the Union Government;
- (c) if so, whether an inter-ministerial task force headed by Planning Commission member is already at work to formulate the approach for multi-sectoral plan for providing basic civic amenities to these 338 towns;
- (d) if so, whether task force has submitted its report;
- (e) if so, the details of recommendations made by task force and follow-up action taken by Union Government thereon; and
- (f) if not, the reasons for non-self submission of report so far by the task force and expected time of its submission of report?

Answer

Minister of Minority Affairs(A. R. Antulay)

(a) to (f) An inter-ministerial Task Force to examine the implications of the geographical distribution of minorities in India was set up on 2nd March, 2007 with the following terms of reference:-

- (i) To identify towns/cities having substantial concentration of minority population requiring special attention;
- (ii) To formulate multi-sectoral plan for provision of basic civic amenities such as housing, schools and educational facilities, health facilities and employment opportunities for urban localities having substantial concentration of minority population within such towns/cities.
- (iii) To identify existing schemes/programmes from which funds could be channelised to such urban localities for implementation of multi-sectoral plans;
- (iv) To suggest schemes for funding the resource gap of projects included in the multi-sectoral plan and also for funding specific projects which are not covered under any of the existing scheme/programme. The Task Force has submitted its report only on 8th November, 2007.